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of the earth and many of them are well adapted for the edification of the general reader.

We may regard this book by Prof. Nordenskjöld as an excellent example of what may be done, in this way, for the polar regions. He has not attempted, however, to cover the whole area of known polar lands but has given special attention to those Arctic and Antarctic territories and neighbouring lands, such as Tierra del Fuego, which he, himself, has visited. The book is very largely composed of a series of popular lectures which he delivered during the winter of 1907 at the University of Gothenburg. He gives no narratives of exploration, but his pages are filled with their results, the additions they have made to our knowledge of these remote parts of the world; and he presents the fruits of research in a simple and interesting manner. In his chapter on Greenland, for example, he gives the main facts that have been revealed to us about the inland ice, the coastal regions, the fiord territory of Scoresby Sound, the remarkable area known as Jameson Land, in East Greenland, where there are no glaciers and most of the land is covered with vegetation, the animal life, the origin of the land forms, the climate, Eskimos and Danish colonization. In the same way, he treats Iceland and Jan Mayen, Spitzbergen, the Antarctic lands and the colder parts of North America, Siberia and northwest Europe. The book is of only medium size, but in it is the essence of many volumes of exploratory and scientific endeavour. It is handsomely printed and illustrated and we may hope that it is only the forerunner of other works on the polar regions similarly planned.

Mission scientifique au Dahomey. Par Henry Hubert. 568 pp., Illustrations and Maps. Émil Larose, Paris, 1908. 15 frs.

This is one of the fine monographs on parts of French Africa, a considerable number of which are being issued by Larose. The author was officially commissioned to study the geological formations and the mineral resources of Dahomey and for two years (1904-6) he carried on his researches through a series of journeys into every part of the colony. He also gave large attention to the geography, climate and natives of the country and the result is that his work is the record of the most thorough and scientific study yet made of this part of Africa. Part 1 of his book is an excellent geographical description of Dahomey. In Part 2, which occupies the greater part of the book, he deals with the physical geography, geology, mineralogy, meteorology and petrography of the country; and in Part 3 he shows the influence which these physical phenomena have exerted in the distribution of the human inhabitants and of some species of vegetable life. The illustrative material, including 86 figures, maps and diagrams a geological map in colours and 49 photographic reproductions, are informing and the author had the advantage of consulting considerable map material still unpublished in the preparation of his maps.

Labrador, the Country and the People. By Wilfred T. Grenfell, C.M.G., M.R.C.S., M.D., and Others. xii and 497 pp., Maps, Illustrations, 6 Appendixes and Index. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1909. \$2.25.

We have long had the late Prof. A. S. Packard's book on the Labrador Coast, a volume of solid worth which is still useful. His work, however, was published eighteen years ago and a large part of our present information about the great peninsula has been revealed since that time. Many of the more recent discoveries and researches have been recorded in reports and books, but the present